Mayfield

Mayfield School

2026 ISI Report Highlights

"Every pupil is seen and understood"

ISI March 2026





“We are especially proud that our co-curricular and enrichment programme was recognised as a significant strength.”

It was a genuine pleasure to welcome seven inspectors to Mayfield over three days. I was delighted to share what I have the privilege of seeing every day: a thriving, ambitious and compassionate community in which our girls are encouraged to learn with confidence, grow as individuals and challenge one another with kindness. I wanted the inspectors to see our pupils fully engaged, to experience the passion and care with which our teachers teach, and to gain a clear sense of the exceptional education that takes place both within and beyond the classroom.

One of the most affirming outcomes of the visit was the recognition of the deeply personalised care that defines life at Mayfield. Every girl is truly seen, known and valued as an individual. Our thoughtful, tailored support ensures that each pupil’s strengths, needs and aspirations are understood and nurtured, creating a strong sense of belonging and enabling every girl to flourish.

We are especially proud that our co-curricular and enrichment programme was recognised as a significant strength — a rare accolade currently awarded to only around one in ten schools. This distinction reflects the exceptional quality and impact of a programme in which every girl participates. Designed to complement the academic curriculum, it enables pupils to explore passions, build confidence and develop the skills that matter most beyond school. For parents, this offers powerful reassurance that a Mayfield education prepares girls not only for academic success, but for adult life with resilience, independence and a strong sense of self.

I am delighted to share the key findings from the inspectors’ visit and hope the report conveys the joy, ambition and excellence that define life at Mayfield.

The full report can be found on our website.

Deborah Bligh

Deborah Bligh, Headmistress

A Significant Strength in Preparing Girls for Adult Life

The ISI Inspection framework awards ‘significant strength’ judgements sparingly, recognising only truly exceptional practice. We are proud that Mayfield’s co-curricular and enrichment programme has been recognised for the vital role it plays in equipping girls with the confidence, skills and character they need for adult life.

What Makes Mayfield’s Programme Exceptional

Mayfield’s co-curricular programme is not an optional extra. It is a carefully designed and fully embedded part of school life, shaped by our educational philosophy and aligned with our commitment to developing confident, capable young women ready for life beyond school.

1. A School Day Designed to Protect Enrichment

Every girl takes part in two timetabled enrichment sessions each day, encouraging balance, preventing overload and supporting sustained energy, motivation and wellbeing alongside academic learning.

2. A Values-Led, Developmental Co-Curricular Programme

Sitting alongside lessons, our co-curricular provision is built around four key pillars — Community, Creative, Curiosity and Physical — which together nurture character, resilience, compassion and independence.

3. A Culture of Confidence, Leadership and Agency

Girls are actively encouraged to lead, initiate and innovate — founding clubs, running societies and shaping school life — so that leadership, responsibility and self-belief are lived experiences, not aspirations.

Preparing Confident, Capable Young Women

Together, these elements create an enrichment programme that is ambitious, inclusive and purposeful — ensuring every girl leaves Mayfield not only academically prepared, but confident in who she is and ready to thrive in adult life.



Over 80

Activities to choose from

2 Core Sessions

Of co-curricular enrichment every day

100%

Of pupils participate

Over 90%

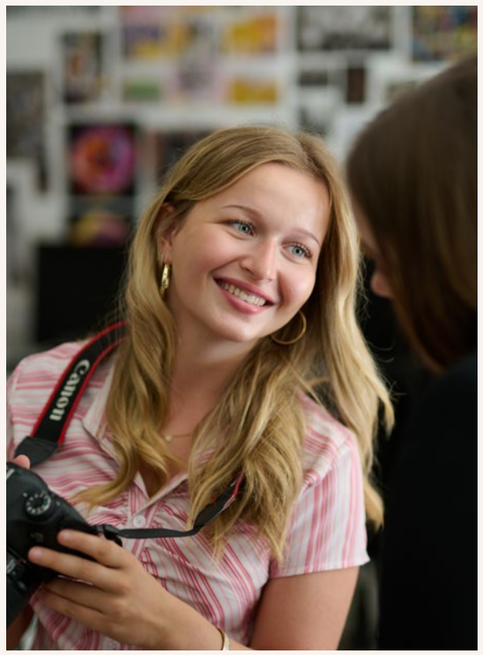
Of enrichment activities come at no additional cost

4 Core Pillars

Community, Creative, Curiosity and Physical



Joy at Mayfield School



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The wide-ranging co-curricular programme enables learning to extend far beyond the classroom.



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Staff provide opportunities for pupils to express themselves freely and to encourage one another to be their personal best.



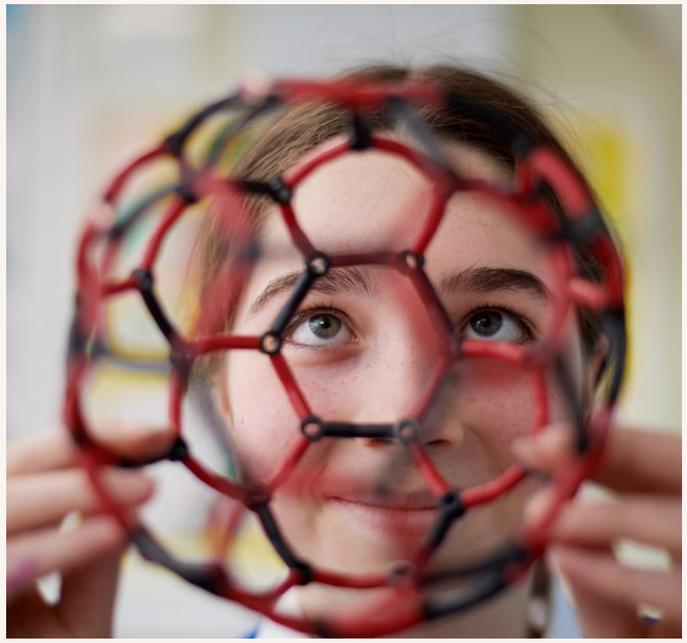


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Pupils are prepared to meet the needs of the age that we live in and to develop compassion, integrity, respect and resilience.



“
Pupils and staff form a close-knit community.

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The promotion of pupils’ views reflects the school’s values.



A Passion for Learning





> Pupils make good progress and are well prepared to make the transition to each new stage of their learning.

> Teachers promote a calm and purposeful classroom atmosphere in which pupils often become completely absorbed in their work.



> The broad and balanced curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to develop their concentration and problem-solving skills.

> Teachers have a detailed knowledge of their subjects.

> Older pupils attain at levels that are above the national average at GCSE and A level.



No1

School in East Sussex at GCSE

Grade 9

Most Frequently Awarded grade at GCSE

51%

Of A level grades A*-A

80%

Of A level grades A*-B

Over 94%

Sixth form girls achieve their top choice university



Future Ready











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Pupils acquire a wide-ranging understanding of topics such as mental health, financial literacy and online safety in preparation for life beyond school.

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Pupils are able to deepen their academic interests and develop critical thinking skills, which prepare them well to undertake future career applications.

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Leaders provide a careers education programme that supports pupils in considering the wide range of opportunities that are available to them.

“

Pupils are prepared to meet the needs of the age that we live in and to develop compassion, integrity, respect and resilience.

“

Sixth-form pupils predominantly progress to universities with high entry requirements, both in the UK and abroad.



Beyond the Classroom



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Lessons learned from the wide range of activities develop pupils’ self-confidence, self-esteem and self-knowledge, along with their social, emotional, intellectual and creative skills.



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The school provides activities that enable pupils to strengthen friendships and foster meaningful connections across year groups, nationalities and between day pupils and boarders.





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The co-curricular programme cultivates essential skills and key personal qualities that equip pupils well for their future adult lives.

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The extensive and highly effective co-curricular activity and enrichment programme, in which all pupils take part, is a significant strength of the school.



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There are opportunities for pupils to develop their creative and performance skills to a high level.

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Pupils develop their courage, resilience, fitness and wellbeing as well as the sporting skills acquired through practice and competition.



Pastoral care and Pupils' wellbeing



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Pupils develop their courage, resilience, fitness and wellbeing as well as the sporting skills acquired through practice and competition.



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Pupils have trusted adults to talk to and know where to go to get support.



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Pupils learn to take the initiative and collaborate effectively with others, gaining in self-confidence and self-esteem.



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Every pupil is seen and understood.

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Pupils' care is detailed and nuanced to the individual.

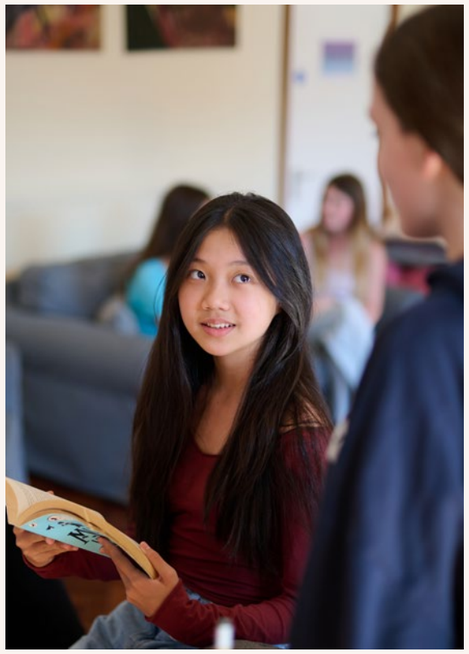




Life in our Boarding Community







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Boarding staff actively promote an ethos of inclusion, equality and diversity so that boarders feel safe, supported and valued.

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The School provides boarders with opportunities to have their voices heard, to be prefects and to exercise leadership through duties and responsibilities appropriate to their ages.

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Boarders are helped to settle in quickly with a comprehensive induction programme.



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Boarders develop independence and confidence through engaging in activities and socialising in their free time.



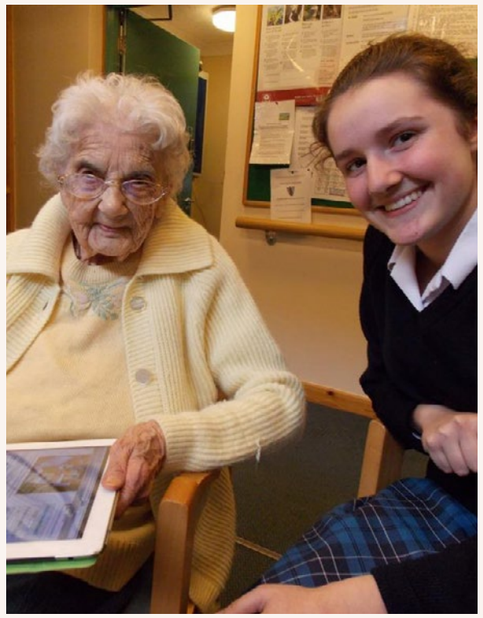
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Boarding staff use their detailed knowledge about boarders' hobbies and academic progress to support pupils' wellbeing effectively.



Actions not Words

Mayfield's Values





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Pupils respect people whose lives are different from their own. They actively endeavour to be kind and to treat others fairly and show a clear understanding of equality.

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Pupils are encouraged to develop deep moral values.

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All pupils take part in a volunteering programme at local schools and care homes.



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Pupils develop social responsibility and an understanding of their role within wider society.

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The values of tolerance, individual liberty, mutual respect and democracy are incorporated within the school's principles, modelled by staff and promoted through school life.



Mayfield

"Pupils express themselves freely and encourage one another to be their personal best."

Contact us today

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